

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A syringe and nozzle tip assembly, comprising:

a syringe having a syringe barrel with a front end and a rear end, a piston slidably mounted in the syringe barrel, and a plunger connected to the piston and extending rearwardly through the rear end of the syringe barrel; and

a nozzle tip having a flange, a sleeve frictionally mounted on the front end of the syringe barrel, and a neck with a curved portion and a curved passage having a curved axis therethrough, wherein the flange includes a recess disposed therein and a filter mounted in the recess.

Claim 2 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the filter comprises a screen and the screen and curved neck portion are integral with the nozzle tip.

Claim 3 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 2, wherein the screen has a mesh size of about 105 microns.

Claim 4 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of the syringe barrel is substantially smooth.

Claim 5 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the recess and filter are configured so that the filter does not contact the end of the syringe barrel.

Claim 6 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the syringe barrel is transparent.

Claim 7 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the syringe barrel is made of a material selected from the group consisting of glass and plastic.

Claim 8 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the nozzle tip and filter are made of low density polyethylene.

Claim 9 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the nozzle tip is adapted to retain bone regeneration material in the syringe barrel.

Claim 10 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the flange includes a surface adapted to seat against the syringe barrel when mounted thereon.

Claim 11 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 1, wherein the nozzle tip is mounted solely by friction fit.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A syringe and nozzle tip assembly, comprising:

a syringe; and

a nozzle tip frictionally mounted on an end of the syringe, the nozzle tip comprising a sleeve, a flange having a surface adapted to seat against the end of the syringe when the nozzle tip

is mounted thereon and a recess disposed therein, a filter mounted in the recess, and a neck having a curved portion and a curved passage having a curved axis extending therethrough.

Claim 13 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 12, wherein the nozzle tip is mounted solely by friction fit.

Claim 14 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 12, wherein the filter is removable.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A syringe and nozzle tip assembly, comprising:

a syringe; and

a nozzle tip mounted on an end of the syringe, the nozzle tip comprising a sleeve, a flange having a surface adapted to seat against the end of the syringe when the nozzle tip is mounted thereon and a recess disposed therein, a filter mounted in the recess, and a neck having a curved portion and a curved passage having a curved axis extending therethrough, wherein the recess and filter are configured so that the filter does not contact the end of the syringe.

Claim 16 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 15, wherein the filter is removable.

Claim 17 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 15, wherein the nozzle tip is mounted frictionally.

Claim 18 (Original): The syringe and nozzle tip assembly of claim 17, wherein the nozzle tip is mounted solely by friction fit.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A method of using ~~[[the]]~~ a syringe and nozzle tip assembly ~~of claim 1~~, the assembly comprising a syringe having a syringe barrel with a front end and a rear end, a piston slidably mounted in the syringe barrel, a plunger connected to the piston and extending rearwardly through the rear end of the syringe barrel, and a nozzle tip having a flange, a sleeve frictionally mounted on the front end of the syringe barrel, and a neck with a curved portion and a passage therethrough, wherein the flange includes a recess disposed therein and a filter mounted in the recess, the method comprising:

providing an amount of granular bone regeneration material in the syringe barrel;

aspirating an amount of marrow blood from a surgical site in a patient through the nozzle tip and into syringe barrel;

mixing the aspirated marrow blood with the bone regeneration material in the syringe barrel until an amount of viscous mass of a mixture of bone regeneration material and marrow blood has formed therein;

removing the nozzle tip from the front end of the syringe barrel; and

applying an amount of the viscous mixture to the surgical site.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 19, further comprising expelling excess marrow blood in the syringe barrel through the nozzle tip prior to removing the nozzle tip.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A method of using ~~[[the]]~~ a syringe and nozzle tip assembly of ~~claim 12~~, the assembly comprising a syringe and a nozzle tip frictionally mounted on an end of the syringe, the nozzle tip comprising a sleeve, a flange having a surface adapted to seat against the end of the syringe when the nozzle tip is mounted thereon and a recess disposed therein, a filter mounted in the recess, and a neck having a curved portion and a passage extending therethrough, the method comprising:

providing an amount of granular bone regeneration material in the syringe;

aspirating an amount of marrow blood from a surgical site in a patient through the nozzle tip and into syringe;

mixing the aspirated marrow blood with the bone regeneration material in the syringe until an amount of viscous mass of a mixture of bone regeneration material and marrow blood has formed therein;

removing the nozzle tip from the syringe; and

applying an amount of the viscous mixture to the surgical site.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 21, further comprising expelling excess marrow blood in the syringe through the nozzle tip prior to removing the nozzle tip.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A method of using ~~[[the]]~~ a syringe and nozzle tip assembly of ~~claim 15~~, the assembly comprising a syringe and a nozzle tip mounted on an end of the syringe, the nozzle tip comprising a sleeve, a flange having a surface adapted to seat against the end of the syringe when the nozzle tip is mounted thereon and a recess disposed therein, a filter mounted in the recess, and a neck having a curved portion and a passage extending therethrough, wherein the recess

and filter are configured so that the filter does not contact the end of the syringe, the method comprising:

providing an amount of granular bone regeneration material in the syringe;

aspirating an amount of marrow blood from a surgical site in a patient through the nozzle tip and into syringe;

mixing the aspirated marrow blood with the bone regeneration material in the syringe until an amount of viscous mass of a mixture of bone regeneration material and marrow blood has formed therein;

removing the nozzle tip from the syringe; and

applying an amount of the viscous mixture to the surgical site.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The method of claim ~~[[21]]~~23, further comprising expelling excess marrow blood in the syringe through the nozzle tip prior to removing the nozzle tip.